

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

H. Michael SHEPARD

Title: METHODS TO TREAT

AUTOIMMUNE AND INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS

Appl. No.: 10/051,320

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Examiner: Kim, Jennifer M.

Art Unit: 1617

Confirmation No. 8000

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment and Reply is in response to the Office Action issued March 2, 2005 by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application. A response to this Action originally was due June 2, 2005. Applicant's representative have enclosed a Petition for a Three Month Extension of Time along with the required fee, thereby extending the deadline to September 2, 2005. Accordingly, this Amendment and Reply is timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this document.